

Message Text

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67

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 /064 W

----- 064365

R 281329Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5405
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
/AMEMBASSY BEIRUT 6168
AMEMBSSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 0620

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, F

SUBJECT: YARIV ON ISRAELI CONTACTS WITH PLO

1. ACCORDIN TO JANUARY 28 MAARIV, MINISTER OF INFORMATION YARIV REVELAED PREVIOUS DAY THAT" THERE HAVE IN THE PAST BEEN ATTEMPTS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH PALESTININA LEADERS OUTSIDE ISREAL, BUT THE ATTEMPTS FAILED". YARIV WAS ADDRESSING GROUP OF JEWISH FOREIGNERS UNDERGOING TRAIN-ING PROGRAM DESIGNED TO INCEASE EFFECIVENESS OF ISRAELI INFORMATION PROGRAMS ABROAD.

2. JERUSALEM POST JANUARY 28 HAD REPORTED YARIV AS SAYING "WE HAD ATTEMPTED TO HOLD SECRET TALKS WITH ARAFAT, BUT OUR OVERTURES WERE REBUFFED." MAARIVE SUBSEQUENTLY INCLUDED IN ITS STORY FACT THAT YARIV HAD DENIED " THAT PHRASEOLOGY".

3. POST ALSO CITES YARIV AS SAYING " IF THE PLO WILL RENOUNCE THEIR NATIONAL COVENANT SO AS TO RECOGNIZE US, THEN WE'D RECOGNIZE THEM".

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4. COMMENT: REPORTED YARIV REVELATION THT GOI HAS ATTEMTPED TO MAKE CONTACT WITH PALESTINAIN LEADERS - EVEN IF NOT ARAFAT

HIMSELF--COMES AS SURPRISE, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF OFFICIAL
SENSITIVITY OVER RECENT REPORTS OF IMPROMPTU MEETING
BETWEEN JUNIOR PLO OFFICIAL AND MAPAM POLITICAL SECRETARY FEDER. IF
THERE
IS NO DENIAL FORTHCOMING FROM GOI THAT USHC ATTEMPTS WERE
MADE, WE WOULD EXPECT PUBLIC CONTROVERSY AND
POSSIBLY KNESSET DEBATE ON SUBJECT. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO
CLARIFY PRECISELY WHAT YARIV IN FACT SAID.
VELIOTES

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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